

NORTHERN IRELAND POLICING BOARD

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 27 AUGUST 2009 AT 2:00PM IN WATERSIDE TOWER, BELFAST**

PRESENT:

MEMBERS:

- Mr Alex Maskey (Chairperson)
(1) Mr Tom Buchanan
Mr Gearóid Ó hEára
(2) Mr David Rose
Mr Suneil Sharma

**OFFICIALS IN
ATTENDANCE:**

Dr Debbie Donnelly, Deputy Chief Executive
Mr David Jackson, Director of Community
Engagement
3 Board Officials

- (1) Item number 4.2 to close**
(2) Item number 6 to close

1. APOLOGIES, ETC

Apologies were received on behalf of Mr Leslie Cree, Ms Mary McKee, Mr Brian Rea and Mr Peter Weir. NOTED

**2. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 25 JUNE 2009**

It was:

AGREED:

That the draft minutes of the Community Engagement meeting held on 25 June 2009 be approved.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28 MAY 2009

3.1 Community Engagement Action Plan 2009/2010 (Item 7 Of Minutes Refers)

This matter was dealt with under Item 8.

3.2 District Policing Partnerships' Annual Conference (Item 11 Of Minutes Refers)

The Director of Community Engagement advised the Committee that the District Policing Partnerships' Annual Conference had been arranged for 17 November 2009 at the Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle. NOTED.

3.3 Human Rights Thematic Inquiry Into Children And Young People (Item 12 Of Minutes Refers)

The Chairperson advised the Committee that he and the Chairperson of the Human Rights and Professional Standards Committee would meet to discuss the Thematic Inquiry. NOTED.

4. CHAIRPERSON'S BUSINESS

4.1 Briefings for District Policing Partnerships on Refresh of Policing With the Community Strategy

The Chairperson advised the Committee that briefings had been arranged on the following dates:

22 September 2009

Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown

7 October 2009

Beechlawn Hotel, Dunmurry

NOTED.

5. MEETING WITH CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIR OF THREE DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIPS

The Committee met with Members and Officials from Down, Magherafelt and Strabane DPPs. It was noted that this type of engagement provided an opportunity for Board Members and DPP Members to have a meaningful discussion on a range of relevant issues. The Chairman provided the Group with an update on the PSNI Strategic Review and noted that it reflected many of the issues raised by the Board and DPPs. It was:

AGREED:

To continue with this approach and invite other DPPs to meet with the Committee

6. ANNUAL DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIPS EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT 2008/09

The Committee considered a paper which provided an annual progress report on the effectiveness of District Policing Partnerships (DPPs) which covered the 12 month period from April 2008 to March 2009.

Officials advised the Committee that while further improvements could be achieved it was an encouraging report in that all the DPPs were able to report some level of improvement.

The Committee discussed the targets that had been set and some Members indicated that a lot of the targets were 'soft' targets and that maybe there were too many. Officials advised that the effectiveness framework had been revised for 2009/10 to address these issues.

Following a discussion, it was:

AGREED:

- To provide letters of feedback to individual DPPs from the Chair of the Committee; and
- To publish a generic report on the Board's Website of DPP performance across the 26 DPPs and 4 Belfast Sub Groups

7. DISTRICT POLICING PARTNERSHIP MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE

The Committee considered details of a number of District Policing Partnership (DPP) members who failed to attend at least 75% of DPP meetings during the period 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009.

Following a discussion:

It was:-

RECOMMENDED:

- **Ards political member** – write to the Chair of the Ards DPP and the individual member advising that the Committee will review in 6 months;
- **Ards independent member** – to acknowledge the explanation provided and to review in 6 months' time;
- **Belfast political member 1** – to contact the Chair of the Belfast DPP and the individual member to advise that the Committee will review in 6 months time;
- **Belfast political member 2** – the Committee was satisfied with the explanation given, however agreed to review in 6 months;
- **Carrickfergus independent member** – to review the situation in January 2009 and contact the individual member and Chair of the DPP;

- **Fermanagh independent member** – the Committee to note and monitor in November 09;
- **Magherafelt independent member** – the Committee to note and monitor in November 09.

8. BUSINESS PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Business Plan for the Community Engagement Committee was considered.

A Member mentioned the Deprivation Index which had been presented to the Board a few months ago. It was suggested that this should be factored into the Business Plan.

A discussion took place on the issue of overseeing PSNI implementing their Public Engagement Strategy.

It was:

AGREED:

- To adopt the Community Engagement Business Plan;
- That officials would contact PSNI regarding the oversight of their Public Engagement Strategy;
- That the Community Engagement Plan should reflect all Board engagement with organisations such as CAJ, CJINI and other key stakeholders.

9. REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR YOUTH ACHIEVERS BALL AT STORMONT

The Committee considered a paper which asked Members to consider a request from the organisers of the Youth Achievers Ball, Mr Basil McCrea MLA and the Daily Mirror for a donation of £2000 to support this event.

Following a discussion, it was:

RESOLVED:

That a donation to the Youth Achievers Ball would not be provided.

10. BRIEFING PAPER ON NSPCC WORKSHOP: TRAVELLER CHILDREN WITNESSING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – MULTI AGENCY CHALLENGES TO PROVIDING SUPPORT

The Committee considered a paper which advised of a request received from the NSPCC to hold a multi agency workshop.

Following a discussion, it was:-

AGREED:

To accept the Board's response to the NSPCC and seek ratification from the Board.

11. INFORMATION PAPERS

11.1 Local Partnership Working Group - Update

The Committee noted the paper. NOTED.

11.2 2009 District Policing Partnership Review Survey

The Committee noted the findings from the 2009 District Policing Partnership Review Survey. NOTED.

A Member raised the issue of the District Policing Partnership's "Buddy System" and a discussion took place on how this system was working. The Chairperson of the Committee:

AGREED:

That this issue would be raised with District Policing Partnership Members.

12. SCHEDULE OF BRIEFINGS 2009

The Committee noted the Schedule of Briefings 2009. NOTED.

13. QUESTIONS FOR THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

There were no matters arising.

14. COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES

There were no matters arising.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no matters arising.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was arranged for Thursday, 24 September 2009 at 5:00pm, Waterside Tower, Belfast.

Meeting closed (15:45pm).

Secretariat
August 2009

Chairperson